

Guidelines for PNW IHC Rotation for Out-of-Geographic Area Mobilization Northwest Geographic Area

NW MAC and by delegation the NWCC Center Manager has the authority to allocate and reallocate resources within the Pacific NW in order to meet critical needs.

Intent

The intent of the NW Geographic Area IHC Rotation is to improve communication, provide a planning tool for the Crew Supervisors, and to distribute out-of-GA mobilizations among all PNW IHCs. In accordance with the NW Mobilization Guide, mobilization assumes IHCs are available and ready for dispatch, and have enough duty days remaining to effectively accomplish an out-of-GA assignment.

Closest forces concept will be employed to mobilize IHCs inside of the NW Geographic Area

Rotation Guidelines

1. Crews are considered “available” when they are prepared to depart for an assignment within two hours after receipt of a resource request.
2. A rotation is used for out-of-area assignments. The order of rotation for IHC assignments out of the PNW geographic area will be determined at the beginning of fire season by the order in which each IH Crew certification checklist is completed and received by the NWCC.
3. Available crews will be dispatched in sequential rotation based on this list. Crews returning from an out-of-area assignment will be placed at the bottom of the rotation
4. If the first crew is not available at the time of an out-of-area request, the next crew in rotation will be selected for the assignment. The unavailable crew will maintain their place in the rotation and will be dispatched in sequence when they return to available status.
5. NWCC will insert crews into the rotation based on their actual available date and time.
6. Crews whose orders are cancelled or that return home prior to being checked in for assignment retain their place in the rotation. Crews who fly together to and from an assignment on the same dates will be returned to the bottom of the rotation in the same order as when dispatched unless crews elect to take additional R&R days.
7. An out of GACC assignment includes crews that are pre-positioned or assigned to staging.

Roles & Responsibilities

IHC Crew Supervisors:

- Notify their host Dispatch Center Manager of changes in crew status.
- Coordinate with Region 6 Chair &/or Co-Chair any comments or issues

Dispatch Center Managers:

- Serve as the primary point of contact for the Geographic Area for their hosted IHCs.
- Responsible for keeping IHC status current in ROSS.

NWCC Center Manager:

- Maintains the IHC rotation schedule; daily updates will be posted to NWCC Shared Resource web page.
- Shares rationale for necessary deviations from the scheduled rotation.
- Works with SORO Operations to resolve issues.

SORO Operations:

- Works with NWCC Center Manager to resolve issues.
- Works with Region 6 IHC Chair or Co-Chair to resolve issues.
- Assists with keeping communications between NWCC and IHC's open.

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